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(54) **Key-controlled safety switch**

(57) A key-controlled safety switch assembly includes a box-like case (2) anchorable to a fixed part of a protection or barrier of a machine or installation and provided with one or more slots (5), an actuating key (3) anchorable to a moving part of the protection and insertable in any of the slots (5). The case (2) contains internally thereof a safety electric circuit (6) for selectively closing/opening a general relays or a safety switch of the machine or installation on insertion/extraction of actuating key (3), locking parts (9) for selectively locking the actuating key (3) in the inserted position in a slot (5) until the dangerous parts of the machine or installation are moving, a detecting device (13) for detecting the position of the key (3) to allow closing of the safety switch (6). The detecting device (13) is exclusively of the electronic type acting from distance, and the key (3) is shaped so as to enter freely in the slot (5) with a minimal predetermined clearance (s).

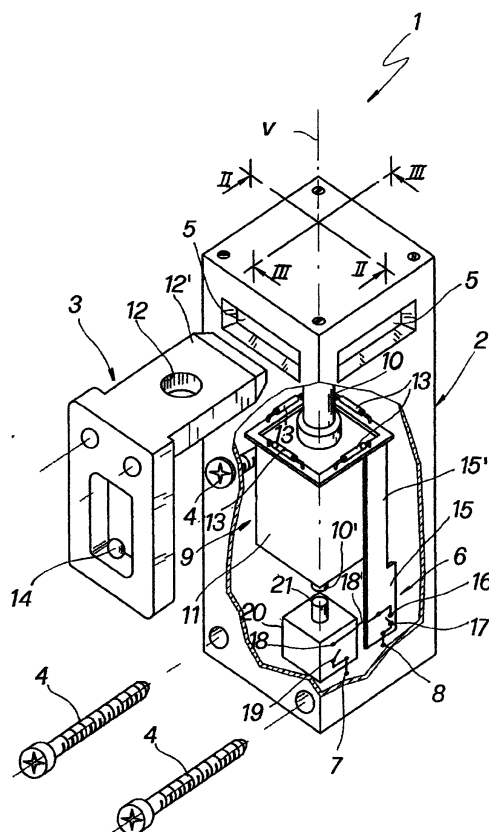


FIG. 1



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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 11 January 2001	Examiner Desmet, W
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
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